

A.L.F. CANADA

issue no. 1

FRONT LINE NEWS

P.O. Box 915, Station F, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2N9 Canada

Welcome !

Welcome to the first issue of FRONT LINE NEWS! On these pages we hope to bring you news of events and actions by and about the Animal Liberation Front and us - the ALF Support Group. This newsletter also hopes to be a forum for discussion - on the ways to bring about liberation and freedom for animals; on the merits of various direct action tactics; on the use and terminology of "violence"; etc. These are your pages as well as ours, and we look forward to your letters, articles, comments, and suggestions! This first issue is being sent out to a wide range of individuals and groups with the hopes of gathering support for animal liberation. For a minimum donation of \$10*, you can receive F.L.N. by mail for one year, and for a minimum of \$20 we'll send you the SG Newsletter from England as well! We hope FRONT LINE NEWS informs you, encourages you, and most of all, inspires you!!

* (more if you can/less if you can't)



HALLOWEEN ACTIONS

"All Hallows Eve" provided excellent cover for actions on the streets of Toronto, as masks were on hand in the event of a fast escape and disappearance into the disguised crowd.

The night began at the Toronto Stockyards where we spent at least 2 hours in amazement and disgust surveilling the huge yards. They are broken up into stalls which could hold about 1.2 cows each. We figured the yards could hold at least 2500 cows when full, all waiting to be murdered! There were only about 200 when we visited. The unloading docks can accommodate about 24 transport-trailers at one time, and the night we were there had about 40 in total at the docks and at the parking area. After overcoming our feelings of hopeless-

ness, the 3 of us went to work on 2 trucks, slashing tyres and spraypainting the sides.

When we left, we came across a fur store where we left our mark with paint on the front and with plastic steel in their locks

Our third action was a planned one on a small slaughterhouse on Clinton St., in the middle of a residential neighbourhood. We left them totally immobilized for the next day as 9 tyres on their 3 trucks were slashed, as well as giving them a new paint job!

Our final jaunt for the evening was in the fur district on Spadina, where we hit 3 stores with plastic steel and spray-paint. One store -Paul Magder Furs- received extra paint on his signs and a mural, and as well had his window smashed!

-The Halloween Maskeraiders

"Fighting in the front lines for Animal Liberation"

FRONT LINE NEWS is published periodically by the Animal Liberation Front Support Group (Canada), and is available by mail for a minimum donation of \$10/year. Material in F.L.N. has been passed on to the Support Group anonymously. All our records of authors and activists are automatically destroyed. Support Group members do not take part in illegal activities; we pass on ALF news for informational purposes only!

The ALFSG (Canada) is an autonomous organization informally affiliated with the international network of ALF activists and Support Groups. Our mailing address is: P.O.Box 915, Stn. F, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2N9.



ANIMALS NEED HOMES!

Finding good, reliable homes for liberated animals, like the cat pictured above, is an essential part of the Support Group's work. Our responsibility doesn't end after the labs are raided. Rescued animals don't just disappear; we urgently need homes for cats, dogs, rabbits, and other species. These must be stable and secure, with responsible people, and must offer a pleasant, relaxing atmosphere. Most laboratory and abused animals have been through hell and absolutely need an environment that allows for their mental, physical, and spiritual healing.

If you are able to share your home with one, two, or more of our friends in the near future, and can provide these necessary requirements, please contact the Support Group as soon as possible. Small animals such as mice and other rodents, and animals that have not yet been abused, may not require as much time or attention as others, so long as the individuals are responsible and caring. Tell your friends and help us find the animals homes!

ALF TREATED SERIOUSLY

In June of this year, 10 animal activists in W. Germany were caught attempting to set a fire to a new lab. Not only were they charged with attempted arson, but also with "belonging to a terrorist organization" for being in the Animal Liberation Front. This move by the State is probably not surprising for those in Europe and England, or at least not as surprising as it is for us here in North America. Government repression has occurred with much more frequency and regularity throughout this century across the ocean than it has here in White-middleclass-yuppiedom! But we should see those charges as an important indicator of how they want to deal with the ALF, and not pass it over by saying it can't happen here.

The level of direct action animal activism in England is at least a thousand times more than it is here in Canada. As with other protests and more militant factions of other movements, Canada falls well behind in most categories. But from what we can see regarding the animal movement, direct action tactics are definitely on the upswing. Regular actions take place in Montreal, Vancouver, and Toronto. So we have to assume that the CSIS (the Canadian Security Intelligence Service) is watching this upward trend as well, and are monitoring it with open files.

Animal activists who choose direct action methods must realize and follow the most basic rules of security: Don't use phones for anything; Don't hold meetings in houses or known meeting places; Write down as little as possible on paper, etc. etc. There are literally hundreds of precautions to be aware of, so basically use common sense and your brains when planning.

The other point of this article is to say that we have brought the animal movement to a point where the police and State are taking us seriously. We can see this as a good sign as this 'importance' will help bring us ever closer to ending all forms of animal abuse. But we know it can't happen for a while yet; more people must get involved in direct action, especially in Canada.

Organise yourselves into small groups and plan in total secrecy. I can't stress that hard enough! Only those involved (anywhere from 3-8 are good numbers, depending on the scope of the action) should know anything at all about the plans. Only work with people you know and can trust. 'Outsiders' and new eager faces are great candidates for being infiltrators. So the underlining message here is: Be Careful!

-Ann Ayelefer

ANIMAL ACTIVIST GETS 6 DAYS

During a protest in the summer at a hotel in downtown Toronto against a vivisection conference inside, Lyn Allen was arrested and charged with mischief to private property after a stinkbomb was thrown inside during their awards (sic) ceremony.

Her trial on Nov. 1 was before an extreme right-wing judge who said that he wanted to make an example of this activist. Despite this being a first offense of any kind; despite the defense asking for a discharge and the prosecution only asking for probation; despite this "offense" being something closer to a highschool-type prank; the judge handed down a sentence of six days in jail!!

The defense had tried to get an acquittal based on a technicality - the crown didn't prove that the convention hall inside the hotel was private property. But the judge chose to ignore that. The two sides had also made a prearranged deal that a statement of "facts" would be agreed upon (even though some of this information was incorrect); and that the crown would also ask for a discharge. The crown reneged on his part of the deal by asking for probation instead, although it's questionable whether it would have made any difference.

There is some suspicion that the harsh sentence was a result of the group being stinkbombed - CALAS; the Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Science. Having such an authoritative sounding name could have influenced the judge.

An appeal was launched immediately to avoid any time at all being spent in jail. This is also a critical case for Lyn because she is in the middle of immigration procedures and has been denied status once already, even though she's been living in Canada for 15 years. A conviction and especially a jail sentence could have serious effects on the outcome of those hearings.

One important lesson to be learned from this experience is: Don't hang around the "scene of the crime" even if you think no one saw you or if you have a group of people to (supposedly) hide in! We can also learn from this trial that, were an ALF member caught and tried, or any other animal activists for larger and more serious offenses, we should assume the harshest of sentences to be handed down.

But this should not stop us from acting!
In England, the latest ALFSG newsletter lists well over 50 people either in jail or awaiting trial. Fear of jail is of course a real fear, but having decided to take action, we have as well decided to take the risk of a jail sentence. What does this mean? Just this - Plan Well and Don't Get Caught!!

Donations to help with Lyn Allen's upcoming appeal and legal fees should be sent to the ALF Support Group. Please attach a note mentioning the appeal.

-Miss Trial

S.G. FUND-RAISING BAZAAR!!!

The Supporters Group is launching its fund-raising campaign with a Bazaar on Saturday, March 22nd, 1986. The location will be Trinity-St. Paul's United Churches, 427 Bloor Street West from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Spadina Subway Station is only a five-minute walk away.

Your participation is VITAL if we are to make this event a success!! We require donations of TIME, ENERGY and SALEABLE ITEMS. The latter must be clean and in good condition - anything less than this simply will not sell!

We are in the process of finalizing plans for a storage space for Bazaar donations. Eventually, when we have this 'drop-off' point, it would be a tremendous help if you could deliver the items yourself.

For the present, write to the ALF Supporters Group, P.O. Box 915, Station 'F', Toronto M4Y 2N9, and let us know if you can help, either by volunteering your time or making a donation of articles.

PLEASE REMEMBER - ANIMAL LIBERATION COSTS MONEY! Your support will be used directly to assist in ending the imprisonment and torture of animals! Thank you!

CONTRIBUTORS WANTED

Dear friends,

I'm a political activist in Toronto who is editing a book on the topic of animal liberation as it relates to other social change movements. I'd like as many people as possible to contribute to the book; my role will be mainly as co-ordinator/editor, putting it all together. My vision of the book includes not only theoretical articles but also any or all of the following: writings from personal experience, fiction, poetry, song lyrics, artwork, etc. Of course, the book will take shape according to what comes in, but some of the areas that I think would be valuable to deal with include:

- * Animal liberation and nonviolence.
- * Animal liberation and feminism: the womyn/nature parallel, etc.
- * Animal liberation and anarchism.
- * Animal liberation and vegetarianism in the punk movement.
- * Vegetarianism as a form of noncooperation.
- * Capitalism and animal exploitation: the commodification of animals.
- * Rationalizations of animal exploitation in organized religion.
- * Animal liberation and positive spirituality (This could focus on Neo-Paganism, Native American spirituality, etc.).
- * The role of multinational corporations in animal exploitation.
- * Misrepresentation of the animal liberation movement in the mass media.
- * Parallels between speciesism and racism.
- * Animal imagery in pornography (Not only actual portrayals of animals, but womyn portrayed similar to animals: what this says about our culture's attitudes toward both).
- * Animal abuse as spectacle/entertainment.
- * History/theory/practise of the ALF and other groups using direct action against animal exploitation.
- * Is violence justifiable in animal actions (e.g. the Hunt Retribution Squad)?
- * Animal liberation and Lesbian/Gay liberation.
- * Animal liberation and abortion: Can you be anti-animal abuse and pro-choice? Or does valuing all life mean being anti-abortion?

Of course, these are only suggestions; the choice of what to write about is up to you. I only ask that you try to approach topics that haven't yet been dealt with too extensively. For example, I'd like to stay away from straight factual articles about factory farming, vivisection, etc. as so much work has already been done on these topics.

Any financial contributions would be much appreciated as the actual process of publishing the book will cost me quite a bit. And any suggestions anyone has would be welcome (especially ideas for a title).

Send your articles, poems, lyrics, art, suggestions, donations, etc. to:

Lynna Landstreet

P.O.Box 1031, Adelaide St. Stn.

Toronto, Ont., M5C 2K4, Canada.

If you want to, you can include a few lines about yourself or your group/publication/whatever, which I will put in a "Contributors' Notes" section at the back. For those doing graphics: I am tentatively planning to have the book printed in 8 1/2 x 11 format so keep that in mind. Either full page artwork or smaller pieces to accompany articles, lyrics, etc. are welcome. I hope to publish the book within the next year, so please respond as soon as possible.

In solidarity,

Lynna.

MATERIAL AVAILABLE

From "Freedom" magazine: An A.L.F. Special (May 81)	40¢
From PETA News: The City of Hope Medical Centre raid	15¢
From the Animals' Agenda: The Head Injury Lab break-in at the U. of Penn.	25¢
From Kick It Over: "Sharing the World With Animals" and the New Years Eve raid in London, Ont.	30¢
Animalines: "Stop The Machine"	Free
From England: ALF Action Reports, Issue No. 1	Free
From England: The SG Newsletter No.s 4, 6, & 8-16	\$1.00 Each
From ARK II Activist: ALF editorial-Free	
From ARK II: "Alternatives to the Use of Animals in Experimentation", "Psychology Experiments On Animals", plus various other leaflets	Free
Buttons - \$1.00 Each	
Vivisectioners Are Scum	DIRECT ACTION
Boycott Zoos	ANIMAL BULLETIN
Meat Is Murder	#100
Ark II	
Animal Liberation/Human Liberation	
Against Pound Seizure	
A.L.F. Supporters Group	
"Support The A.L.F." T-Shirt	\$6/\$8

Please add extra money for postage.

ALF Support Group.

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"WE ARE THE LIVING GRAVES OF MURDERED BEASTS
 SLAUGHTERED TO SATISFY OUR APPETITES.
 WE NEVER PAUSE TO WONDER AT OUR FEASTS,
 IF ANIMALS, LIKE MEN, CAN POSSIBLY HAVE RIGHTS.
 WE PRAY ON SUNDAYS THAT WE MAY HAVE LIGHT,
 TO GUIDE OUR FOOTSTEPS ON THE PATH WE TREAD.
 WE'RE SICK OF WAR, WE DO NOT WANT TO FIGHT--
 THE THOUGHT OF IT NOW FILLS OUR HEARTS WITH DREAD,
 AND YET WE GORGE OURSELVES UPON THE DEAD.
 LIKE CARRION CROWS, WE LIVE AND FEED ON MEAT,
 REGARDLESS OF THE SUFFERING, FEAR AND PAIN
 WE CAUSE BY DOING SO, IF THUS WE TREAT
 DEFENSELESS ANIMALS FOR SPORT OR GAIN,
 HOW CAN WE HOPE IN THIS WORLD TO ATTAIN
 THE PEACE WE SAY WE ARE SO ANXIOUS FOR.
 WE PRAY FOR IT, O'ER HECATOMBS OF SLAIN,
 TO GOD, WHILE OUTRAGING THE MORAL LAW.
 THUS CRUELTY BEGETS ITS OFFSPRING--WAR!"

George Bernard Shaw

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 A.L.F. GIFTS
 Ceramic Figures The ALF Liberator Series.
 Limited Edition. \$9.95
 1986 Animals Diary Filled with graphics &
 information from the animal liberation
 movement. \$9.95 \$7.95
 In Defence of Animals Based on personal
 experiences of animal liberators. Edited by
 Peter Singer. \$6.95
 Support the ALF T-Shirts \$6 unemployed/
 \$8 employed
 ALF Supporters Group Buttons \$1.00
 Cheques payable to/For more information:
 ALF Support Group, P.O. Box 915, Stn. F.
 Toronto M4Y 2N9

FRONT LINE NEWS needs news to publish!
 If you have any ALF or related news or
 actions to report, please send it along
 to us anonymously or use a pseudonym.
 Remember: Actions aren't news until
 they're reported;
 and News doesn't happen until
 it's created!

BE CREATIVE!!

